

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 446 without my signature.

I believe that the State and local governments must share responsibility and work collaboratively to ensure the successful transition of Sexually Violent Predators (SVPs) released into the community by the courts. That is why I recently signed Assembly Bill 493 (Salinas), which would provide clarity earlier in the court process on the question of where that SVP should be released and ensures that counties and the State are working together to deliver public safety to the communities effected.

This bill will allow local governments, until January 1, 2007, to claim State reimbursements for local law enforcement costs associated with the release of SVPs from State custody. The supervision of all sexual offenders in the community is an important priority of local law enforcement as is the supervision of all previous offenders. The State does not reimburse local governments for the costs associated with the supervision of other felons upon release, so it is unclear as to the need to deviate from this policy for this subset of offenders.

For these reasons I am unable to sign this measure.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger